

Durham Environmental Affairs Board
Tuesday, December 14, 1999, 6:00 PM
Durham City Hall, 2nd Floor Committee Room

Meeting Notes

Chairman, Joseph Jackson, called the meeting to order at 6:18pm. Members in attendance were Jim Conner, Ed Harrison, Steve Hiltner, Marion Johnson-Thompson, and Brian Morton. Staff in attendance were Sue Burke, Alex Waddell, and Glen Whisler. Members with excused absences were Jerad Bales, and David Kirkpatrick.

Meeting Notes: Meeting notes from November 16 meeting were approved.

Sandy Creek Park Site: There is concern about the City of Durham entering into a lease agreement with AT&T PCS for a telecommunications tower at the Sandy Creek Park site. EAB suggests there are more appropriate sites for communication towers than the proposed site. Joe Jackson, EAB Chairman, was in contact with Johnny Ford Director of Durham Parks and Recreation and Guillo Rodriguez also at Durham Parks and Recreation. Memos from Guillo Rodriguez to Bob Healy, New Hope Creek Advisory Committee and Joseph Jackson, Environmental Affairs Board were handed out to members. Johnny Ford says the issues have been addressed and the lease agreement will go before City Council in January 2000. Ed Harrison made a motion for EAB to support the New Hope Advisory Committee on this issue. The motion was seconded by Brian Morton and passed with all ayes. Joseph Jackson will submit an electronic draft of this memo to members for their review before sending it to Bob Healy.

Tree Removal Policy: James Mitchell, City of Durham Urban Forestry Manager presented a tree removal policy for EAB review. The City Manager, at a Public Works subcommittee meeting requested the existing tree removal policy be updated and reviewed by the Planning Commission and the Environmental Affairs Board. Brian Morton offer a motion to support the Tree Removal Policy and also that the Environmental Affairs Board would be willing to serve as an advisory board in the appeals process. The motion was seconded by Jim Conner and passed with all ayes.

Travel Demand Management: Brian said he and Ed Harrison met with County Commissioner Ellen Reckhow and Mark Ahrendsen of the City of Durham Department of Transportation. Ellen says the ordinances are only a part of the overall package for major employers. Brian says we should be advocating more than travel reduction during peak hours. He presented two vehicle miles traveled reduction scenarios, a 3-15 (3% per year for five years) and a 4-20 (4% per year for five years). Brian offered a motion to support the goals of the Northern Durham Parkway to reduce single occupant vehicles by at least 10% in no more than five years which was adopted by the City Council and County Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Ed Harrison and passed with all ayes.

Next Meeting: Trip Reduction Measures. Johnny Ford will give a presentation on the Durham Parks and Recreation Masterplan at the February Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm

Notes prepared by Alex Waddell, Durham City-County Planning